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Country: USSR/Norway

CIA

Subject: Private Estimate of 53-54 Spermoil Production/Norway Trade With USSR/Conditions at Spitsbergen.

Date

Place Acquired - - -

Supplement to:

Date Acquired

Responsive to: #2

Date of Info Jun 53

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Source or Clarifying Statement:

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1. The production of spermoil for the 53-54 season is expected to be much lower than recent years. The Norwegians believe that price of spermoil in relation to cost of production is too low and that whalers will concentrate on edible whales. In place of spermoil, tallow will be used because of prices.
2. There has been some trade between Norway and the USSR. Norway is sending lumber and fish in exchange for USSR wheat and rye.
3. The Norwegians and USSR people appear to be getting along on a friendly basis in Spitsbergen and there does not appear to be any military activity in that area.

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